

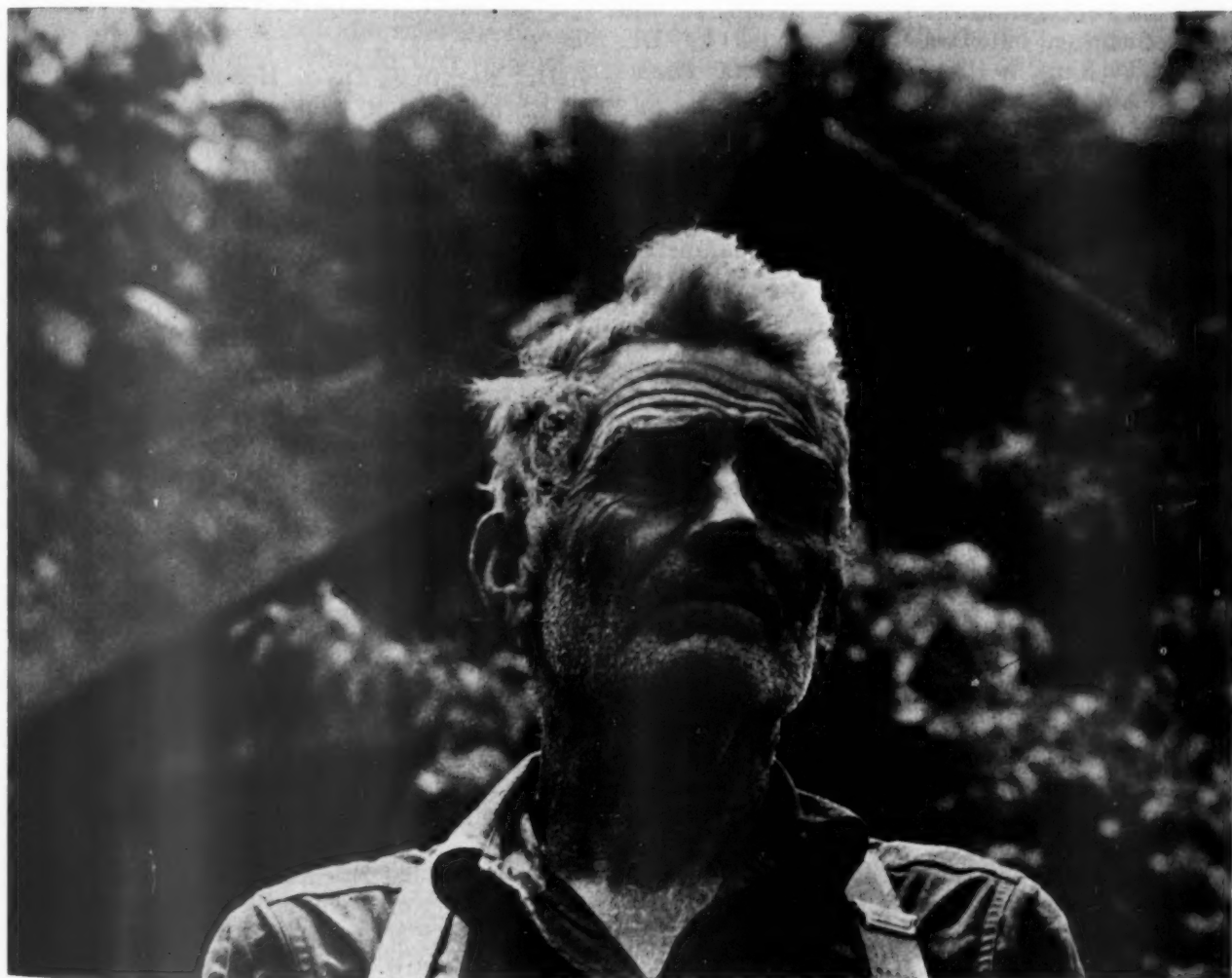


# Aging

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

AUGUST 1961

THE UNIVERSITY  
OF MICHIGAN  
OCT 10 1961  
READING ROOM



## HEW Programs And Activities Outlined by Wilbur Cohen



Wilbur J. Cohen  
Assistant Secretary  
U.S. Department of  
Health, Education, and Welfare

Assistant Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Wilbur J. Cohen appeared August 23 before the Subcommittee on Federal and State Activities of the U. S. Senate's Special Committee on Aging and, in his testimony, outlined the Department's programs and future plans in the field of aging. He was accompanied by Dr. Donald P. Kent, newly appointed Special Assistant on Aging to Secretary Ribicoff.

Mr. Cohen's testimony included an outline of the challenge and problem of aging and a summary of the basic needs of older people. He discussed "the new forward steps we have taken during the last few months and the Administration's plans for future action."

He pointed out the new or increased benefits for some 4 3/4 million people under the 1961 social security legislation, the Department's continued cooperation with the States in implementing the Medical Assistance to the Aged Provisions enacted in 1960, and the fact that Secretary Ribicoff has initiated a comprehensive evaluation of public welfare programs with a view to making recommendations to Congress next year. He also noted the efforts of the Bureau of Public Assistance to encourage States to develop social services needed by aged public assistance recipients.

Mr. Cohen further said that "the Department will continue to place major emphasis on this most essential proposal for using the social security program as a basic method of dealing with the problem of how to help meet the costs of health care for the aged."

Another Administration-sponsored proposal he described is the Community Health Services and Facilities Bill (H.R. 4998), which will make a three-fold attack on the problem of health care of the chronically ill and aged by providing construction grants for nursing homes, stimulatory

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## Kansas City:

### Midwest Council For Social Research in Aging

A *Midwest Council for Social Research in Aging* was formally organized April 27. Purpose of the Council is to stimulate social research in aging by:

- Organizing discussions on research needs and techniques;
- Encouraging communication and dissemination of pertinent information;
- Exploring sources for research support;
- Aiding the development of research proposals;
- Seeking funds for research;
- Organizing cooperative research efforts.

Dr. Marvin J. Taves, Head of the Department of Rural Sociology, University of Minnesota, has been named Chairman of the Executive Committee. This *Midwest Council* was made possible through cooperative efforts on the part of local, State and Federal organizations in preparation for the 1961 White House Conference on Aging, and through a special grant from the Kansas City Association of Trusts and Foundations.

These institutions are represented on the Council:

*University of Minnesota, Minneapolis-St. Paul*  
*Bethel College, St. Paul, Minn.*  
*Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn.*  
*State University of Iowa, Iowa City*  
*Iowa State University, Ames*  
*University of Missouri, Columbia*  
*St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo.*  
*Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.*  
*Community Studies, Inc., Kansas City, Mo.*  
*Southwest Missouri State College, Springfield*  
*North Dakota State University, Fargo*  
*University of North Dakota, Grand Forks*  
*University of South Dakota, Vermillion*  
*South Dakota State College, Brookings*  
*University of Kansas, Lawrence*  
*Kansas State University, Manhattan*  
*University of Wichita, Wichita, Kansas*  
*University of Nebraska, Lincoln*  
*Health and Welfare Council of*  
*Metropolitan St. Louis*  
*Kansas City Adult Life Study*

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## Senior Citizens Housing Program: HHFA Direct Loans

Information for this article was furnished by the Community Facilities Administration, Housing and Home Finance Agency, Washington 25, D.C.

Direct loans by the Housing and Home Finance Agency to private nonprofit corporations, public agencies and bodies, and consumer cooperatives, for housing designed especially for the elderly, are administered by the Community Facilities Administration, a part of HHFA.

Direct loans are only one part of HHFA's program for elderly housing. Other types of help include FHA insurance of loans made by private lenders, and low-rent public housing for elderly persons of low income under the program of subsidies to local housing authorities administered by the Public Housing Administration. This article discusses only the direct loan program. It is not intended to be a complete list of all the requirements for securing direct loans, but should give enough of an idea to indicate whether the applicant should proceed with further inquiries. Inquiries should be directed to the Regional Administrator or to the Regional Director of the Community Facilities Administration in the HHFA regional office serving the area.

### *Who is eligible for a Loan?*

Private non-profit corporations (for example, a corporation established by religious or labor organizations or local citizens for the purpose of building housing for the elderly citizenry), consumer cooperatives and public agencies and bodies are eligible for loans. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate that the organization has an assured life at least equal to the maximum term of the loan.

### *Are loans made only in large communities?*

No. Applicants will be expected to show that there is sufficient demand for the housing they plan to build, but there is every reason to expect that this showing can be made in many small communities. Many applications have already been received from small communities.

### *Are "life-care" plans eligible?*

No. Only rental projects are eligible. "Life-care" plans generally involve the payment of a founder's fee of several thousand dollars and the guarantee of complete care, including nursing home or hospital treatment, for an unvarying monthly fee. Such projects are not covered by this program.

### *What is the current interest rate?*

Loans for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1961 are being made at 3 $\frac{3}{8}$  percent. Applicants will be required to show that they are unable to secure a private loan on equally favorable terms. Loans may run for as long as 50 years.

### *What facilities can be included?*

In addition to living quarters a project may include a cafeteria or dining hall, a community building, a small infirmary, or other essential service facilities.

### *Design and construction requirements?*

There should be a reasonable balance among types and sizes of housing units, aimed at meeting the requirements of the elderly population to be served. Construction should be undertaken in an economical manner and not be of elaborate or extravagant design or materials. No definite ceiling has been set on project costs, but these will be evaluated in the light of their effect on rental charges.

### *What costs will be covered?*

A loan may cover the total development cost, including the cost of construction, the cost of the land and necessary site improvements. Loans may also be made to rehabilitate, convert or improve an existing structure presently unsuitable for its intended use, where such activity is undertaken in conjunction with new construction which appreciably increases the project capacity. Development costs may also include built-in fixed equipment. Fees for necessary professional services, at prevailing rates, may be included. Construction advances may be provided if needed.

### *How old is elderly?*

This program is for people 62 years of age or older. In cases of families, either husband or wife must be at least 62. A younger person, not a member of the family, may be admitted if it can be shown that this is necessary for the physical care or economic support of the elderly persons with whom he is living.

### *What rents will be charged?*

The program is designed for people in the lower-middle income brackets. Borrowers will

(continued on next page)



## HHFA DIRECT LOANS—(con't.)

be required to show that the project can meet its costs, including repayment of the loan, through rents that such people can afford to pay. Rent schedules must be approved by the Government and so must any changes. Every effort should be made to keep rents as low as possible, without sacrificing design, durability of construction, or needed facilities.

### *Do you need outside help to secure a loan?*

You do not, and you will be required to warrant that you have employed no one other than a bona fide representative of the borrowing group, or its technical advisors, to secure your loan. An authorized representative must be a person who has no financial interest in the award of the architectural or construction contracts, the purchase of equipment or the purchase of the project site.

### *Who prepares the plans?*

The applicant and its architect are responsible for developing the plans, specifications and cost estimates. Drawing of plans is an allowable development cost.

### *Where are applications to be filed?*

Information, advice and application forms are available from the Regional Administrator or the Regional Director of the Community Facilities Administration in the HHFA Regional Office that serves the area. CFA's field staff, located in each HHFA regional office, is ready and able to help you:

REGION	CITY	JURISDICTION
I	346 Broadway New York 13, N.Y.	Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York
II	1004 Widener Bldg. Chestnut and Juniper Sts. Philadelphia 7, Pa.	Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia, West Virginia, Virginia
III	645 Peachtree-Seventh Bldg. Atlanta 23, Georgia	Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia Alabama, Mississippi, Florida
IV	2000 Bankers Building 105 West Adams St. Chicago 3, Illinois	Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska
V	Federal Center 300 West Vickery Blvd. Fort Worth 4, Texas	Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, Colorado, New Mexico
VI	989 Market Street San Francisco 3, Calif.	California, Southern Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, Hawaii, Guam
	Area Office Room 450, Federal Office Building 900 First Ave. Seattle 4, Wash.	Alaska, Northern Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington
VII	P.O. Box 9093 1608 Ponce DeLeon Ave. San Juan 17, Puerto Rico	Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands

As of August 8, HHFA Administrator Robert C. Weaver had approved loans, or made fund reservations, for these projects (in some cases final agreements are still pending):

PROJECT	AMOUNT
Peninsula Volunteer Properties, Menlo Park, Cal.	\$ 280,000
Cordell Christian Home, Cordell, Okla.	400,000
Amherst Wilder, St. Paul, Minn.	540,000
Kundig Center, Detroit, Mich.	160,000
Evangeline Foundation, Shreveport, La.	660,513
Council Gardens, Cleveland, Ohio	1,100,000
Lutheran Welfare Council, Peoria, Ill.	493,000
Eventide Lutheran Home, Denison, Iowa	400,000
"S" Elect Homes, Duluth, Minn.	864,000
Lesley Foundation, Hillsborough, Calif.	570,000
Rotary Club of Eagle Grove, Iowa	430,710
Hudson Guild, New York, N.Y.	495,000
American Lutheran, Fargo, North Dakota	500,000
Lutheran Good Shepherd, Concordia, Missouri	557,220
Lorraine Priester Foundation, Houston, Texas	95,000
LeHigh Acres, Fort Myers, Florida	385,000
Strawberry Creek, Berkeley, Calif.	1,383,760
Glenwood Retirement, Glenwood, Minn.	278,000
Young Memorial, Dallas, Texas	700,000
St. Ann's Home, Duluth, Minn.	2,427,000
Valley Christian Home, Thief River Falls, Minn.	340,000
Morningside Manor, Alcester, South Dak.	450,000
Pine Ridge Settlement House, Pine Ridge, S.D.	166,600
Morris Park Senior Citizens, New York, N.Y.	1,321,040
Citizens Housing Research, Ferndale, Mich.	500,000
Ferndale Cooperative, Inc., Ferndale, Mich.	450,000
Ev. Lutheran Good Samaritan, Greeley, Col.	310,000
Foundations for Senior Citizens, Grand Junction, Col.	300,000
Kiwanis Elderly Housing, Baton Rouge, Louisiana	441,000
<b>TOTAL—29</b>	<b>\$16,997,843</b>

### *Rent Schedules*

Rents and charges are hard to predict firmly until construction has been completed and operations are under way. Following are examples of expected costs of some of the proposed projects:

\$138-143 per month for room, board, utilities, and social and recreational facilities in Alcester, S.D.; \$95-130 per month for room, board, laundry, and utilities in Thief River Falls, Minn.; \$120-125 per month for single rooms and \$105-110 per person in a double room (meals included) in Denison, Iowa; \$65-95 per month for housekeeping units in Hillsborough, Calif.

## South Carolina:

### Public Welfare Takes The Lead

By Mrs. Mabel B. Little, Director, Laurens County Department of Public Welfare, Laurens, South Carolina.

As a local public welfare administrator, let me speak from the "grass roots" of working with aged people in a rural community. 60% of the 49,000 population of our county, in the western part of our State, is strictly rural. In 1950 we had 2,937 people over 65, and the 1960 census will show a higher number.

For a long while our Department has studied the needs of the aged in the county. We surveyed both public assistance recipients and others of higher economic status. We saw the need to help individuals reach the full potential of their capacity for self-maintenance, for satisfactory relations within the family and the community, for access to appropriate facilities for special types of care, and the need for strengthening family life and preventing dependency.

#### Not The Welfare Department Alone

We knew that many of the needs could not be met by the Welfare Department alone. Therefore, we sought assistance from the Ministerial Association. We offered our knowledge and experience with individual people who have told us what they want the community to do for them and what they could do for the community. The ministers, in turn, gave us names of the aged members of their churches, and we prepared a special questionnaire for them. From the results, we had something to tell the community about what this group needed and wanted.

Then, we used the county-wide Community Council as a springboard for reporting the needs of older people. This 20-year old organization, which acts as a clearinghouse for service ideas and plans for the needs of various service areas, is composed of health and welfare workers, local government officials, civic leaders, business and farm groups, church members, and interested individuals. As a result of our studies, several pressing needs were brought to the attention of the Community Council.

#### Housing Projects

One of these needs was better housing for older people. A housing project has now been built, locally owned and managed. Elderly couples or older persons living alone rent about 25% of these apartments.

### Nursing and Boarding Homes

We presented the need for convalescent nursing homes for the elderly. Newspapers, radio, and service clubs publicized this need and a home was established! We told church women about the loneliness of the patients and they now visit the home regularly. We made known the need for boarding homes for older people, particularly those living alone in isolated areas and not in need of nursing care, and we now have a boarding home of which we are very proud. We are also working toward having a convalescent nursing home for chronically ill patients in conjunction with the local hospital—but in a separate building.

#### Recreational Facilities

We recognized the need for recreational facilities and gave facts from our survey to a civic club. This club sponsored a new senior citizens club and local municipal officials made a special appropriation for it from recreational funds. A local home economics teacher meets with the club once a month to teach new methods in homemaking and better nutrition. Many others contribute time, effort, and talent. Local physicians have shown *their* interest by meeting with the club periodically to discuss health problems. Ministers attend club meetings and help with programs. Club members enjoy group outings, the annual fair, local flower shows, and other community activities. Young people take a delight in presenting programs of local talent.

#### Homemaker Services

When our caseworkers saw a greater need for homemaker services for our older people, a report was made to the citizens through the Community Council and we now believe that such services will soon be available.

Thus, because there has been real recognition of the necessity for *mobilizing* a community in planning realistically for our older people, we have made some real progress. We believe that the Welfare Department has a responsibility to extend services to older people without reference to eligibility for public assistance. The public welfare agency is in an unusually advantageous position to work with the total community to promote further a more satisfying life for our older people.

We can all let our communities know what can be accomplished by combined interests and efforts.

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

ABRAHAM A. RIBICOFF, Secretary

Published to share and exchange information about programs, activities, and publications among interested individuals, agencies, and organizations.

The first issue of *Aging* was published in June 1951.

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Subscriptions (\$1 for 12 issues, 50¢ additional for foreign mailing, or 10¢ for single copies) should be addressed to Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C.

All other communications may be sent directly to Editor of *Aging*, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington 25, D.C.

## NEWS ITEMS

In July, Miss S. Roberta Church, of Memphis, Tenn., was appointed consultant in DHEW's Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, on rehabilitation of the aging disabled.

Miss Church is responsible for planning and developing a nationwide program for the rehabilitation of older handicapped people. Her address: Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington 25, D.C.



On July 4, Kenneth C. Cavanaugh was appointed Director of the HHFA program of Direct Housing Loans for the Elderly which is being expanded under the Housing Act of 1961.

Mr. Cavanaugh has been in the Federal service 22 years, 15 of which were with Public Housing agencies in executive management and operations positions. At the time of his transfer to the new post, he was Director of Management for PHA's Washington regional office.



The American Nursing Home Association's (1346 Conn Ave, NW, Washington 6, DC) 12th annual national convention is scheduled for October 2-6 in Cleveland.

Representatives of 48 State nursing home associations will exchange views on all facets of the nursing home of the future. Principal focus will be on planning, construction, and financing of new nursing homes.

In early April, Mrs. Clifford E. Zollinger, civic leader and volunteer worker long active in Oregon activities in the field of aging, was presented a special award by the AFL-CIO Community Services Committee of Portland. Mrs. Zollinger is founder of Senior Craftsmen of Oregon.



Senior citizens of the metropolitan area of Washington met with traffic officials of the District of Columbia in a unique exchange of views on traffic safety in May. Sponsored by the League of Senior Citizens Clubs of the Metropolitan Area in cooperation with the Department of Motor Vehicles, the forum was an outgrowth of the field service program of the Office of Traffic Safety.

Purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for responsible citizens and public officials to pool their ideas for safer walking and driving in District of Columbia.

For more information: Mr. Eugene S. Simmons, 5628 Old Barnaby Rd, SE, Washington 21, DC.



A statewide pedestrian safety program designed for New Jersey's senior citizens has been launched by the Department of Law and Public Safety and the New Jersey Division of Aging.

N.J.'s Attorney General David D. Furman, and Mrs. Eone Harger, Director of the N.J. Division of Aging, (Department of State, Trenton 25), key-noted the campaign on the Division's radio program "The Added Years." Subsequently, speakers from both agencies appeared on the radio program, and before senior citizen groups and safety council.

A four-page two-color pedestrian safety pamphlet prepared by the two State agencies was mailed to safety councils, golden age clubs, and senior citizen groups.



The North Carolina State Board of Public Welfare has received a two-year grant of just over \$70,000 from the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, to be used to establish a unit of services to older people in the Forsythe County Department of Public Welfare. The project, started April 1, will demonstrate what can be accomplished in a broad public welfare program serving all older people, when there is adequate staff skilled in providing services and working with other agencies in the development and full utilization of community resources. The special project's staff of a supervisor, two case workers, four homemakers, one case work assistant, two stenographers, and one clerk are regularly employed members of the Department.



Dr. Stanley R. Mohler has been named Director of the Federal Aviation Agency's Civil Aeromedical Research Institute in Norman, Oklahoma. The Institute, which is under the direction of the FAA's Bureau of Aviation Medicine, has been established to carry out research to meet both existing and anticipated problems to promote air safety. Dr. Mohler will have the overall responsibility for the human factors research conducted there.

Dr. Mohler was formerly Medical Officer for the Center for Aging Research at the National Institutes of Health, and he served as Technical Director for two committees of the WHCA. His new address: Director, Civil Aeromedical Research Institute, U.S. Federal Aviation Agency, PO Box 1082, Oklahoma City.



In Massachusetts, effective July 1, meals served to organizations whose membership is limited to persons 60 years of age or over are **exempt from State tax**, according to the News Bulletin of the Massachusetts Council for the Aging. Such organizations have been asked to file the appropriate State tax exemption form with the State Tax Commissioner.



Also in Massachusetts, during the 1960-61 season, the Registrar of Motor Vehicles in cooperation with the State Council on Aging, issued a special release titled "Heads-Up Walking Required of Senior Citizens During This Season of the Year." This was used by newspapers throughout the State to provide specific **safety hints for elderly pedestrians**.

For more information: Council for the Aging, Room 27, State House, Boston 33.



The newsletter of the Indiana State Commission on the Aging and Aged, *Mature Living* (2303 Maple St, Columbus) reports that:

- the Commission has condensed a 70-page report on the **County Home Survey** which was conducted by the State Board of Health, into an 11 page booklet summarizing the main findings. This is available free from the Commission;
- the 3rd Annual **Indiana County Home Operators Institute** was held at Purdue University May 24-25;
- the **Annual Conference** of the Commission will be held in Bloomington at Indiana University, Union Building, September 25-26;
- Sunday, September 24, is **Senior Citizens Day** in Indiana.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT

BY LICHTY



"Sorry, madam! . . . It's a firm Mother Jones policy not to accept applicants over 35! . . ."

Reproduced courtesy of George Lichty, *Sun-Times—Daily News Syndicate*, Chicago, Illinois.

The Family Service Association of America (215 Park Ave S, NYC 3) announce that **Mrs. Margaret Millar** of Spartanburg, South Carolina has been appointed Associate Director of the Project on Aging, effective September 15.

Mrs. Millar will be responsible for the practice aspects of the Project on Aging, including the direction of institutes and workshops with the communities soon to be selected for intensive participation in the Project. She will also be responsible for the preparation of teaching materials and will be available for consultation to member agencies.

### COVER PICTURE

Photographed by E. A. Russell of Beverly, Kentucky, Mr. Floyd Brock stands in front of his Kentucky home. Floyd Brock, an inveterate storyteller famous for keeping young audiences spellbound, gained his tale-telling technique in the course of raising eight children of his own. Next year he will be 70.

This photo, with Mr. Brock's permission, was made available to *Aging* through the courtesy of Mr. Robert F. O'Connor, Director of Publications for the Council of the Southern Mountains, Inc., College Box 2000, Berea, Ky. It was published in the Council's periodical, *Mountain Life & Work*.

## "A Day in the Sun"

More than 2,000 of New York City's handicapped people set aside their problems on June 22 as they embarked on an all day boatripe and "Day in the Sun" which, for many of them, was their only opportunity to enjoy a summer's day outdoors. The event was sponsored by the Institute for the Crippled and Disabled, a rehabilitation center (23 St & First Ave, NYC 10), through the Institute's founder, Mr. Jeremiah Milbank, prominent financier and philanthropist.

It took six months to devise the day-long schedule of activities especially planned for the handicapped aboard the ship. The entire event was worked out under medical supervision to make certain that the handicapped would have a good time all day long without undue strain. One entire deck of the excursion vessel was devoted to a wide variety of games and contests which gave all of the handicapped aboard a chance to participate. Another deck was given over to the serving of 2,000 lunches and refreshments throughout the day. A third deck was reserved for those disabled persons who wanted to enjoy the sun and sight seeing along the Hudson River as the ship sailed to the vicinity of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Throughout the day, groups were taken to the ship's wheelhouse so that the handicapped might see how a large excursion ship is navigated. The 197-person staff of the Institute for the Crippled and Disabled set aside their professional rehabilitation duties to attend to the needs and desires of the handicapped aboard.

Among the oldest attending was 70-year old Johanna Olschewsky, an arthritis victim, who has attended every one of the annual boatrips conducted by the Institute since they started in 1925.

## Increased Social Security Benefits Under New Law Enacted June 30

Under the 1961 amendments to the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program:

1. Retired men now have the option to collect reduced social security as early as age 62.
2. Aged widows' benefits will be increased in September by about 10 percent.
3. People getting lowest-rate benefits also will have their payments increased in September.
4. The amount of work needed to qualify for benefits is reduced.
5. Beneficiaries who work will have less money withheld from their benefits—they can now get more in combined earnings and benefits than they would have had under the old law.
6. Social security taxes will be increased by  $\frac{1}{8}$ th of one percent each for employees and employers beginning January 1, 1962; by .2 of one percent for the self-employed.
7. The deadline for disabled workers with long-standing disabilities to apply for disability benefits is extended one year.

### Publications on Social Security Amendments

- "Changes in Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance . . . the Social Security Amendments of 1961" (OASI-1961-1)—briefly describes the main provisions of the new law;

- "Your Social Security" (OASI-35)—gives a comprehensive explanation of the program, including the recent changes in the law;

- "Social Security Benefits, How You Earn Them . . . How Much Credit You Need . . . How to Estimate the Amount" (OASI-855)—answers the most frequently asked questions about the social security program.

Additional information, and explanatory leaflets are available from all 584 district offices of the Social Security Administration.

## At PHS:

### New Division of Chronic Diseases

The Division of Chronic Diseases, U.S. Public Health Service, has virtually completed its initial task of filling principal staff positions and currently is advancing the development of operating programs throughout the nation, according to Dr. Leslie Knott, Division chief.

Overall mission of the new division is the prevention of the occurrence and progression of disability caused by the Chronic and Degenerative diseases which today have replaced the infectious diseases as the major cause of illness, disability and premature death in America.

The division was established February 1, 1961, within the PHS Bureau of State Services, and incorporates the activities of the Heart Disease Control and Chronic Disease programs of the former Division of Special Health Services. Under the reorganization plan, the functions and personnel of the former Chronic Disease program provided a nucleus for the formation of three separate branches within the new division. These branches are: Arthritis and Diabetes, Vision and Hearing Conservation, and Long Term Illness which includes problems of the aged.

Both Cancer and Heart Control programs were transferred without organizational change.

The former Division of Special Health Services has been abolished.



## Veterans Administration:

### Library Services For The Aging

At VA Hospitals and Centers throughout the Nation, "talking books," prism glasses, ceiling projectors, and other special devices are in use to provide the full benefits of an unusual program of library services.

Shown at right are patients in the VA Hospital library at Perry Point, Md.

All three photographs below were taken at the VA Hospital in Baltimore.

For more information: Director, Library Services (11A3), U.S. Veterans Administration, Washington 25, D.C.



Prism glasses enable patients to read while lying flat.



"Talking book" machines and recordings are furnished through a national distribution system from the Library of Congress, Division for the Blind, Washington 25, D.C.



Ceiling projectors are used for patients unable to hold a book.

## Office of Housing for the Elderly

### Established at HHFA

Housing Administrator Robert C. Weaver announced in late May an Office of Housing for the Elderly, headed by a new Assistant Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency, has been set up in his office to coordinate all Federal programs dealing with this subject. Mr. Sidney Spector was appointed to this position.

Three Federal programs of housing for older persons are now being carried on by HHFA and its constituent agencies:

- the direct loan program;
- a program of low-rent public housing, administered by the Public Housing Administration;
- a program of mortgage insurance provided by the Federal Housing Administration.

Mr. Spector was formerly in charge of the direct loan program for housing for the elderly, and before that was staff director of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Problems of the Aged. As Assistant Administrator in charge of this new office, he has responsibility for coordinating the three Federal programs, and for planning and direction at the national level in cooperation with organizations and communities in the development of housing for the elderly.

## New PHS Research Grants

On August 9, Surgeon General Luther L. Terry announced that during the period April-June, 1961, 98 grants for research in aging were awarded by the U.S. Public Health Service—at an annual expenditure of \$2,162,069.

The grants, to private institutions in 30 States, the District of Columbia, and Canada, were made by the seven NIH Institutes and the NIH Division of General Medical Sciences. The projects range from fundamental research in the biology of the aging process to studies concerned with the physical, psychological, and social problems of aging people.

Thirty-four of the grants represent continuations of previous projects, amounting to \$517,750; sixty-four are new, amounting to \$1,644,319.

These new grants bring to 800 the number of NIH-supported projects for research in aging. Over 100 additional studies in aging are being conducted directly by the National Institutes of Health. Annual expenditures by NIH for the more than 900 studies exceed \$19 million.

A list of the April-June grants is available from the Center for Aging Research, DGMS, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda 14, Md.

## An NIH Report: "Research Highlights in Aging"

By Mrs. Joe Bales Graber, M.P.H., Information Officer, Center for Aging Research, Division of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda 14, Maryland.

The second edition of "Research Highlights in Aging" is now ready for distribution. This brochure presents a review of a selected number of scientific papers on research in aging carried out or supported by the National Institutes of Health. The papers were selected from more than 500 papers published during 1960 by investigators in this country and abroad.

The articles reviewed range from fundamental studies in the biology of aging to studies concerned with the physical, psychological, and social problems of aging people. In addition to the scientific papers presented, the brochure also includes reviews of new literature in the field, meetings of considerable importance, programs of the five major multidisciplinary centers for aging research, and training programs.

This edition has a new format. The reviews

are grouped into the eight major categories used for classifying grant projects listed in the Center's companion publication, "Activities of the National Institutes of Health in the Field of Gerontology." These categories are General, Major Multidisciplinary Research Projects, Structural Aspects of Aging, Social Aspects of Aging, Identifiable Disease Processes, and Training.

Each review is preceded by complete information on the source of the document presented. This includes the name of the investigator or investigators, the investigator's address or that of the grantee, grant number of the research project involved, the Institute making the grant, and the name of the publication in which the article appears in full. This identifying material is included for the reader to locate the original article or contact the investigators if further information is desired.

The publication of "Research Highlights in Aging" completes the Center's presentation of annual reports for 1960. Previously issued were "Activities of the National Institutes of Health in the Field of Gerontology" and "Research Programs in Aging." All of these documents are available free upon request to our office.

### MIDWEST COUNCIL—(from page 2)

Community Studies, Inc., a nonprofit social research organization in Kansas City, has been designated as host organization for the *Midwest Council*. On the basis of and \$11,850 grant from the Kansas City Association of Trusts and Foundations, Community Studies has given summer research fellowships to seven faculty members and two graduate students from participating institutions:

Courtney B. Cleland, *North Dakota State University*

Donald O. Cowgill, *University of Wichita*

Gary Hansen, *University of Minnesota*

Robert L. McNamara, *University of Missouri*

C. T. Pihlblad, *University of Missouri*

Arnold M. Rose, *University of Minnesota*

Merlin Taber, *State University of Iowa*

Marvin J. Taves, *University of Minnesota*

Samuel Yoshioka, *University of Missouri*

### Five-State Surveys

The surveys of 6,000 older persons in Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North and South Dakota were made by approximately 1,500 volunteer interviewers from organizations such as The American Association of University Women, Home Demonstration Units, Schools of Nursing,

Councils of Social Agencies, County Welfare Departments and County Health Departments who participated on behalf of their respective State Commissions or Councils on Aging. Their State Universities analyzed the data for individual State reports. The Departments of Public Welfare in each State assisted in data tabulation, or in the general operation of the survey.

### Preliminary Report

The Executive Committee of the *Midwest Council* has issued a preliminary report of the combined five-State surveys: a more comprehensive analysis will be published in the fall. The preliminary report, "As Senior Citizens See Themselves—A Survey of Aging in the Upper Midwest," prepared by Dr. Marvin J. Taves and Gary Hansen, was written for use by lay persons and community planners to show what 6000 older persons themselves feel about their health, income, housing, leisure time activities and attitudes toward retirement. This report is available from Miss Amelia Wahl, Regional Representative on Aging, U.S. Department of HEW, 911 Walnut St. Kansas City, Mo.

Aim of the entire effort is to incorporate into the teaching and curricula of schools and colleges a great deal of valuable knowledge in aging, as well as to make a significant contribution to community planning for older citizens in the Midwest.

## HEW Programs—(continued from page 2)

grants to the States to improve health services outside the hospital, and hospital research grants.

Mr. Cohen noted the appointment of a full-time consultant in aging in the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, and increased research funds both in OVR and at the National Institutes of Health's Center for Aging Research. He also cited the Office of Education's recent conferences on education for aging held throughout the country, and stepped-up counseling and vocational education for middle-aged men and women as an important part of the Adult Education program of the Office of Education. In discussing the need for professionally-trained personnel, he said that the Public Health Service grants to State health departments are used in part for in-service training for their staff members in the field of aging and chronic diseases.

### *Special Staff on Aging—New Director*

Mr. Cohen stated that the focal point in the Federal government for the close coordination of

DHEW's program accomplishments and aspirations in aging is the Special Staff on Aging. Charged with the responsibility of carrying out these proposals on a stepped-up basis is Dr. Donald P. Kent, newly-appointed Director of the Special Staff on Aging and Special Assistant on Aging to the Secretary. Dr. Kent was formerly Director of the University of Connecticut's Institute of Gerontology, and the Chairman of the Connecticut Commission on Services for Elderly Persons.

In his own testimony to the Senate Subcommittee on Federal and State Activities in Aging, Dr. Kent stressed the need to "stimulate, encourage, assist, and coordinate the multitude of scattered programs and activities—to put back together the picture of the older person as a whole individual."

Copies of Dr. Kent's testimony outlining proposed plans for the Special Staff on Aging, and of Assistant Secretary Cohen's testimony, are available free from the Special Staff on Aging, U. S. Department of HEW, Washington 25, D. C.

## New York State:

### **Interdepartmental Cooperation For Mental Health Care**

The New York State Commissioners of Mental Hygiene and Social Welfare have felt for some time that "under proper safeguards certain types of mentally sick, older persons can be treated in existing (nonhospital) facilities for the aged. Such cases include older persons with mild mental symptoms where:

- the mental disorder consists chiefly of confusion, memory defect, and general weakening of the mental faculties;
- the behavior is not seriously disturbing to other patients in the facility and would not be detrimental to the welfare of others;
- the psychiatric condition is such that the patient does not require care and treatment in a fully organized psychiatric facility—psychiatric consultation, however, must be available."

### *Special Office of Consultant on Aging*

In 1956, the Department of Mental Hygiene established an Office of Consultant on Services for the Aged, held by Dr. Alvin I. Goldfarb, who

has conducted research which suggests that there are many aged persons in non-psychiatric facilities whose mental condition would indicate possible certification for mental hospital care. Conversely, there are people in mental hospitals who from a medical and psychiatric viewpoint could be cared for *outside* psychiatric hospitals, although there is no question that they are properly placed in the mental hospital.

In line with Dr. Goldfarb's research, the Departments of Mental Hygiene and Social Welfare, and the State Nursing Home Association, presented this year a series of institutes on mental health care in homes and institutions to discuss how

- these research conclusions might be followed;
- improvements in the overall operation of out-of-home facilities for the aging can be achieved;
- psychiatric consultation services acceptable to both Departments can be developed in nursing homes, voluntary homes for the aged, public homes, and public home infirmaries.

In New York, the Department of Social Welfare is responsible for the regulation of nursing homes and homes for the aged; the Department of Mental Hygiene operates State psychiatric hospitals.



## PUBLICATIONS

Two new publications of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging are available from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, DC. @ 15¢:

**"Basic Facts on the Health and Economic Status of Older Americans,"** a 34-page staff report which documents the health and economic status of the aged, deals with utilization of physicians and general hospital services by the aged, and describes the adequacy of available health insurance protection;

**"Health and Economic Conditions of the American Aged,"** a chart book, which covers "the special health problems of the aged," "the high costs of health services," and the "limited financial basis for meeting rising health costs."



**"What's New in Housing the Elderly,"** a 34-page booklet which outlines the advances in senior citizen housing during the last decade, has been published by the Housing and Home Finance Agency and is on sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C., @ 30¢.

The illustrated booklet includes sections devoted to houses for owner occupancy, apartments for independent living, public housing for the elderly, and group housing. The various Federal aids to housing for the elderly are also explained, including direct loans and the assistance available from the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) and the Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA).

The material for the publication was developed initially by E. Everett Ashley, 3rd, Director of HHFA's Statistical Reports and Development Branch, for use at the Fourth Annual New England Conference on Aging in Woodstock, Vermont, last fall.

More than 25,000, possibly as many as 43,000, new cases of Parkinson's disease are now occurring each year in the U.S., according to a pamphlet just issued by the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness of the Public Health Service.

Single copies of **"Parkinson's Disease—Hope Through Research"** (PHS Publication No. 811 and Health Information Series No. 100) are free from PHS. Orders under 100 are 15¢ a copy from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C. There is a 25% discount on orders of 100 or more to one address.



Two more publications for the U.S. National Health Survey are now available from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C.:

**"Reporting of Hospitalization in the Health Interview Survey,"** (PHS Publication No. 584-D4: 50¢) is "a methodological study of several factors affecting the reporting of hospital episodes";

**"Health Interview Responses compared with Medical Records,"** (PHS Publication No. 584-D5: 45¢) is "a study of illness and hospitalization experience among health plan enrollees as reported in household interviews, in comparison with information recorded by the physicians and hospitals."



A new revision, as of July 1, of a 7-page mimeographed **"Directory of State Agencies Having Primary Responsibility for the Licensure and/or Regulation of Hospitals, Nursing Homes, and Homes for the Aged"** is available from the Division of Chronic Diseases, U.S. Public Health Service, Department of HEW, Washington 25, D.C.

An identification of type of facility licensed is given for each State.